



Blackburn HIGH SCHOOL

6 November 2024

Parent Payments 2025

Dear parent/guardian,

Blackburn High School is looking forward to another great year of teaching and learning and would like to advise you of Blackburn High School's voluntary financial contributions for 2025.

Schools provide students with free instruction to fulfil the standard curriculum requirements, and we want to assure you that all contributions are voluntary. Nevertheless, the ongoing support of our families ensures that our school can offer the best possible education and support for our students. We want to thank you for all your support. This has made a huge difference to our school and the programs we can offer.

Within our school this support has allowed us to provide a wider offering of subjects and special curriculum experiences; enhanced digital learning opportunities; the upgrade of our Wellbeing Centre, Pathways/Careers Centre and Resource Centre on the ground floor of the VCE building.

For further information on the Department's Parent Payments Policy please see a one-page overview attached.

Yours sincerely,

Joanna Alexander
Principal

Geoff Hugo
School Council President

Curriculum Contributions - items and activities that students use, or participate in, to access the Curriculum	Amount
Subject consumables, classroom materials and activities	\$110
Digital technologies - provision of devices, software, and system support	\$60
Printing and photocopying of worksheets and learning materials	\$70
Whole school events - Athletics carnival - entry and transport (\$15) - Swimming carnival – entry and transport (\$15)	\$30
Total Curriculum Contributions	\$270

Other Contributions - for non-curriculum items and activities	Amount
School Sports Victoria affiliation	\$13
Student wellbeing programs	\$24
Student and parent communication tools-Xuno	\$42
First aid equipment and consumables	\$12
School grounds maintenance and improvements	\$100
Maintenance of specialised equipment/facilities (e.g. Gym equipment, musical instruments)	\$30
Locker maintenance and hire, faster wi-fi, library resources	\$55
Total Other Contributions	\$276

Tax deductible contributions	
Building fund. A tax-deductible contribution to support renovations, upgrades, and maintenance of school infrastructure. Suggested amount \$150 \$200 \$300 Other \$_____ A tax-deductible receipt will be issued	\$ [parent to complete]

Parent Payments – All year levels – 2025



Educational items for students to own

We recommend that you purchase the following items for your child to individually own and use.

New

- Textbooks and digital resources – from **Lilydale Books (new supplier for 2025)**
- Uniforms – from **Dobsons**
- Booklists and Uniform requirements and contact details are available on our website.

Second-hand

- We also offer the option for buying and selling second-hand uniforms, textbooks and other items through Sustainable School Shop
- Visit www.sustainableschoolshop.com.au for further details.

School operated shop for donated second-hand uniforms

- We offer quality second-hand uniforms in our school-run shop at very reasonable prices. Donations of good quality clean uniforms are always welcome. Contact the school via email blackburn.hs@education.vic.gov.au or call us on 8804 6464 for opening times or check our website for further details.
Alternatively, contact Andrea Julien directly on andrea.julien@education.vic.gov.au or 8804 6406

Laptop Program – from 2025

- In 2025, Blackburn High School will transition from managed devices to a “Bring Your Own Device” (BYOD) policy. Managed devices will gradually be phased out by BYOD across secondary schools.
Note: Blackburn High School will continue to support all current school-managed devices.
Further details and recommendations are available on the Blackburn High School website - www.blackburnhs.vic.edu.au under the Learning and Teaching tab.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – provided on a user-pays basis

Blackburn High School offers a range of optional items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides to deliver the Curriculum.

The cost of extra-curricular items and activities will be advised throughout the year.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities	Amount
School magazine/yearbook (\$16)	\$16
Academic Competitions – ranging from \$4 to \$9 per entry	\$4-\$9
Excursions to be scheduled and confirmed throughout the year	TBC
All year levels -Interschool Sport- includes cost of transport	\$25 per event
Year 7 Camp - Camp at Lake Dewar in Myrniong Victoria–April/May - Approx \$430-\$450 - TBC	TBC
Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Students - Bronze level award registration fee (\$175) - Duke of Edinburgh Camp (details and cost TBC)	\$175 plus cost of camp
Year 12 - School formal – May/June - Graduation Dinner – October - Rugby Jumper – price tbc	Approx \$95-\$110 Approx \$95-\$110 Approx \$98-\$105
Instrumental Music Group lessons–Y7-8 (First instrument-includes Ensemble) - \$830 Group lessons–Y9–12 (First instrument, includes Ensemble) – \$935 - Individual lessons (includes Ensemble) - \$1640 - Group Lessons (second instrument) - \$515 - Ensemble only (for students having lessons outside of school) - \$465 - Second Ensemble - \$392 - Instrument Hire - \$376 - For VCE Music subject students only – Individual lessons (\$942) Music Camp – Generations in Jazz - TBC Various music events/excursions will be held throughout the year - TBC	\$830 \$935 \$1640 \$515 \$465 \$392 \$376 \$942 - TBC - TBC
Total Extra-curricular Items and Activities	

Financial Support for Families

Blackburn High School understands that some families may experience financial difficulty and offers a range of support options, including:

- the Camps, Sports and Excursions Fund (CSEF)
- State Schools Relief (SSR)
- Payment plans for some Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

For a confidential discussion about accessing these services, or if you would like to discuss alternative payment arrangements, contact Andrea Julien by phone on 03 8804 6464 or via email blackburn.hs@education.vic.gov.au

Category	Total
Curriculum Contributions	\$270
Other Contributions <i>(Non-tax deductible)</i>	\$276
<i>(Tax-deductible)</i>	\$ (Parent to complete)
Extra-Curricular Items and Activities – to be invoiced separately via Xuno	\$
Total	\$

Payment methods

Our preferred method of payment is via the Xuno Parent Portal. If you are not paying via Xuno, please return a copy of this completed form with your payment to the General Office.

Refunds

Parent requests for refunds are subject to the discretion of the school and made on a case-by-case basis. Refunds will be provided where the school deems it is reasonable and fair to do so, taking into consideration whether a cost has been incurred, the Department's Parent Payments Policy and Guidance, Financial Help for Families Policy, and any other relevant information.

PARENT PAYMENTS POLICY

ONE PAGE OVERVIEW



FREE INSTRUCTION

- Schools provide students with free instruction and ensure students have free access to all items, activities and services that are used by the school to fulfil the requirements of the Curriculum. This includes the Victorian Curriculum F-10, the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) including the VCE Vocational Major and the Victorian Pathways Certificate.
- Schools may invite parents to make a financial contribution to support the school.



PARENT PAYMENT REQUESTS

Schools can request contributions from parents under three categories:

Curriculum Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for curriculum items and activities which the school deems necessary for students to learn the Curriculum.

Other Contributions

Voluntary financial contributions for non-curriculum items and activities that relate to the school's functions and objectives.

Extra-Curricular Items and Activities

Items and activities that enhance or broaden the schooling experience of students and are above and beyond what the school provides for free to deliver the Curriculum. These are provided on a user-pays basis.

- Schools may also invite parents to supply or purchase educational items to use and own (e.g. textbooks, stationery, digital devices).



FINANCIAL HELP FOR FAMILIES

- Schools put in place financial hardship arrangements to support families who cannot pay for items or activities so that their child doesn't miss out.
- Schools have a nominated parent payment contact person(s) that parents can have a confidential discussion with regarding financial hardship arrangements.



SCHOOL PROCESSES

- Schools must obtain school council approval for their parent payment arrangements and publish all requests and communications for each year level on their school website for transparency.